

THE WOMAN OF FASHION.

A Forecast of the Summer Girl—The Daughters on Her Chateleine.

The summer girl has not yet come out in her full glory. She is still lying low, for she does not wish to take off the edge, so to speak, of the sensation which she is accustomed to create. She wants her triumph to be complete, with never a chance for anyone to say she is an old story from the May number when the June issue is out. No, she is saving herself for the month of roses, to blossom simultaneously with the other beautiful summer things. But by the same token she is budding and rapidly unfolding her petals under the careful and solicitous nurturing of her best friend—the dressmaker. Indeed, she has already blossomed in the modiste's conservatory, but has wisely refrained from displaying her gorgeousness until a more suitable season. Nevertheless she has been discovered arrayed in all her midsummer glory, and this is the way she looks and will look for one day in the season, at least.

She wears a suit of white pique, made quite plain, for upon this particular day she will prefer to be fetching rather than "winsome and lacy." The skirt is plain, and short enough to display her round-footed shoe. The blouse is a blouse, with collar and bow tie and buttoned cuffs, very like a shirt waist, and she wears a chateleine—by all means a chateleine with everything useful and useless dangling from it like a warden's prison keys. And who knows but that when one of these chains may represent a heart enthralled in enchanted misery by her many charms.

It is becoming quite the correct thing, by the way, for young gentlemen to present their sweethearts, or even those whom they merely admire, with things to wear on their chateleines. It is not necessary to wear all the attachments one has upon every occasion, and thus one can have more than can be worn at once and vary them to suit the time and place, as well as the character of one's escort. Some girls even go so far as to carry such boxes, from which they proudly produce the "light" for his lordship's cigarette—if they don't happen to object, and there are a few who do, more's the pity. The stamp box, the court pocket case, the folding scissors, comb, penknife, and the thousand and one things that the first time invented for man to carry in his overburdened pocket have now been fitted with rings and are being viewed upon the summer girl by long-suffering men in seeming revenge for the tons of fold-rolls he has been compelled to carry about in the shape of "Christmas presents."

Chateleine buckles are being sold in all grades from white metal to enameled gold of the finest quality, and no gown is too elegant to admit of the chateleine, none too poor to be in harmony with it. Of course, the quality of the chateleine should suit that of the dress with which it is worn. A fine gold one, for instance, looks out of keeping with the shirt waist and sailor hat of the morning, just as diamonds and cotton dresses are inadmissible, or diamonds and anything else before noon. Silver buckles at from \$2 to \$5 are now on the market, in all sizes and shapes, with designs of which no two are alike. Some of the oxidized buckles are set with dull jewels, such as turquoise and queer-looking stones suggestive of Asiatic charms and talismans, that are very much in character for summer girls. Some have three chains, some five, and others have a ring upon which a number of things can be hung at once. I counted eleven chains on a gold buckle. It seems to be the thing to wear an uneven number of them, and there is a mysterious connection between chateleines and flirtations, and there is said to be luck in odd numbers. One of the prettiest gold chateleines I have seen had only three chains, from which there hung a memorandum tablet, a gold pencil and a vinaigrette, each of which was attached with a large amethyst. The particular girl who wore this preferred to put perfume in the vinaigrette rather than smelling salts, as she is a strong, healthy young woman not given to fainting and she is fond of sweet scents. It is a happy chance that she wears purple in effecting, and so, as she has her chateleine set in amethysts, she wears violet when she can get them and carries violet perfume in the vinaigrette as a substitute when she is without them.

The gold buckle with its equally fine attachments is without doubt a thing of beauty, and many a young woman yearns for it as she does for a silk petticoat, but after all the silver one answers every purpose and is extremely useful, particularly to the working girl. To have one's pencil and notebook always at hand in attractive form is a convenience which is worth the money spent for it, and the more additions one can make to the collection without overburdening oneself the greater is the advantage derived therefrom. The stamp-box, for instance, though often scoffed at as a nuisance, will be found very useful to fill that want for "just one stamp" which no woman feels until she has written a letter in a lodging house late at night, when all Uncle Sam's supply stores were closed up. Of course, the stamp-box is intended to hold all one's stamps, but it is very convenient to have a means of carrying two or three somewhere about one's person without having them stick together or break to pieces in one's purse. The change purse with a limited supply of car fare is another convenience which the working woman likes to have dangling from her belt, even though the average man does disapprove of this seeming carelessness of one's cash.

The silver chateleine and the linen or pique suit make an excellent combination for summer service as well as attractiveness. Pique suits in blue trimmed with white, or all white, are being made for yachting gowns. The white ones are usually trimmed with embroidery and pearl buttons. One blouse that buttons at the side has embroidery running from the waist to the shoulder on one side, with pearl buttons and straps to balance it on the other.

Plain hats are not very much in favor with the summer girl. Nearly all are trimmed with flowers, and that very profusely, too. Wings are very fetching on the sailor hat, and one can't have too many. A combination that is very pretty is light-brown straw trimmed with large wings of a lighter tint, nall loops and twists, and purple asters, with a knot of green velvet to relieve it. Such a hat can be worn with any dress. A sailor hat with a wide plaid ribbon band makes a stunning bit of plain headgear.

One is often puzzled to know how to trim the made-over sleeve around the wrist, for, of course, it cannot be left plain. If the sleeve has been cut long enough to turn back an inch at the hand it may be merely faced with silk and rolled back. But if, as is usually the case, the sleeve is just the right length, it can be placed a couple of inches and then faced. Open the sleeve on the lower side, and then quilt in some lace or pleated museline ruffling, making it nearly three inches wide on the underside and narrowing to nothing at the inside seam on top.

A half yard of that wide, cream lace, which has gone out of fashion for flouncing, may be utilized for a yoke or chemise to wear with any dress that is cut a little low in the neck. Buy a half yard of cheap, cream-colored satin and make a yoke and collar of it, covering the yoke with the lace laid flat and smooth. Any shade of ribbon may be used to tie around the neck of the dress, and to tie the neck of the dress low and square and sew the yoke down to it, but the yoke should be opened in the back to be pretty.

FOR MERMAIDS.

Costumes in Which to Take Salt Water Baths This Summer.

New York, May 22.—There is a rather picturesque saying that as soon as the dandelions bloom the mermaids begin to rise, which implies, in other words, that by the first of May it is time to have one's bathing gown ready against the near approaching season for a preliminary dip. Dandelions have been industriously blooming for a matter of more than a fortnight now, and already some of the smartest bathing costumes are on view, quite completed, at the good dressmakers and in the leading shops.

To all appearances this is to be a season of almost unprecedented splendor among the salt-water mermaids. Only women of eccentric, not to say perverted, taste, will, however, give any attention to the amazing creations of unbridled green satin, fine pongee silk and lace-trimmed printed crotches, displayed along with other ready-made sea things in some shops. They are among the extravagances to which the fashion for elaborate costumes on the beaches threatens to be carried this year, for it is only the simple truth to say that the bathing dress is not the easy, informal and studiously plain garment it used to be. To trim a blue flannel blouse and skirt with red piping or narrow white gimp is not sufficient this year.

There must be dazzling flashes of color and somewhat rich yornate decoration used in the two most popular of swimming goods. These are netlon and long-napped open-shoulder marine elanines, that are not only pretty, but excessively comfortable and durable materials, rather usurping, or at any rate fully sharing, the popularity of serge, flannel, silk warp, mohair, and stiff sailcloth or naval check, which has a vogue of its own. If it is a question of choosing the color of your new bathing suit, do not be hampered, oh, wailing woman, by conventional scruples in favor of navy blue, black, white or brown.

Rather ask for clear, poppy red, iris purple or orange leaf green wool stuff. They are all to be very much worn, and instead of navy blue two shades of dark and light cornflower blue flannel will predominate. Gray, with tones of pink in it, golden yellow, combined with black, and brown bordering on orange are all among the gowns to flash with a commendable effect of variety among the waves at the watering places. But again it must be said that in woven materials these new and charming suits are designed with their skirts cut to the knees, or just an inch and a half below; with very few exceptions the sleeves are rather short and the knickerbockers are rather often made of fine mohair, matching the skirt in color, than of flannel.

A number of expert mermaids are going to try, under their skirts, silk tights reaching to the knee and at the waist fastened there to a hand buttoning to the belt of the skirt. But beyond all doubt of a rumor, and in actual evidence, set up for purchase, are bathing suits, which can be highly recommended. The best ones are hardly more than a belt, six inches wide, to fold about the waist and face up over little bone looks in front. This wide belt is made of the heaviest white flannel, and has four whalebones in it. When properly worn it need not compress the body at any point, nor interfere with easy movements.

The second waist is a knitted wooden corset cover, short-sleeved, low in the neck, slightly boned and buttoning up the front. Stockings are considered in best taste when worn to exactly match the predominant color in the suit, while nearly all bathing shoes are either flat-heeled white canvas or of dark blue canvas, with a bright bow on the toe, else they are of white or blue, or brown wash leather, flat-heeled and lacing with gay ribbons high up on the calf of the leg. Many women, of course, prefer to wear in the water no other foot covering than the stocking affairs, slipping on, as they come out, shining black rubber slippers, having gay scarlet rubber bow knots on the toe.

The plaid handkerchief in Madras or called silk, is the appropriate protection for heads against the salt sea waves. The desire of every pretty girl is to learn how West India negroes arrange their tresses and knot their own "kerchiefs" accordingly. Some of the colored silk handkerchiefs sold are decorated with large or small black polka dots on brilliant scarlet, yellow, green or bright purple backgrounds, and over her tinted head, when parading the beach in her voluminous bath gown, every woman will wear a bath hat. Only those who timidly dip into the water, as high as the knees or waist line, will wear their hats beyond the tide mark and into the waves. The summer girl who is on stepping into the brine, but on coming out instantly resumes their smart sailor's wide legions, trimmed with wreaths of blooming roses, or pull into place very festive looking fishermen's caps.

At the edge of the water they will also assume their bath robes, taking in both these innovations a hint from the seaside Frenchwoman, who wisely concludes that however fascinating her appearance may be in a dry bathing suit, and when she is actively enjoying the water, on coming out it is most discreet to hide her moist and

everything snug and complete about the middle.

The leather belts share the honors with embroidered ones of wool and canvas that are so pretty, but far more durable, and women there are who will undoubtedly wear into the water a certain amount of jewelry in the form of chateleines and handkerchief puffs, while among the oddities shown at the counters where bath articles are for sale are masks to wear when swimming. This appeals particularly to the mermaid who wishes her share of salt water fun without any damage to her complexion. She wears, of course, a long-sleeved, high-necked suit, and if a mask of dark blue waterproof silk, spending only at the eyes and nose, and adjusting to the face by means of silver hoops passing behind the ears.

Happily the mascot, too, with her younger sisters, and those only a trifle older, who come in for her bath arrayed in knickerbockers and a man-of-war's-man's blouse. Up to her knees her legs are innocent of all covering, her sleeves are short, her blouse neck cut low, and upon her curls is tied a wide straw hat; this last, to keep the sun out of her eyes, but not her cheeks. After the 16-year-old girl is raised a girl gets into a skirt or a pair of trousers, and she wears quite as gay a dress as her youthful mother or debutante sister.

If there is any special distinction to be made this season in children's bathing suits over those worn by grown-ups, it is the preponderance of white flannel and serge swimming gowns, trimmed with white braid. The most convenient child's dress is, however, the one made like a union undergarment, woven all in one, striped gaily and for the girls showing a short tunic buttoning on around the waist.

It is almost an inexpressible, but nevertheless, very important fact, that any skin under a well-lined shadow veil appears to excellent advantage, and that under this cobweb covering, whether bought in black or white, defects of the facial cuticle are not apparent to the keenest eye.

With sailor hats two kinds of new veiling are worn: the batiste veil, to keep off sunburn and freckles, and the fish net, to show off a fresh young skin. Every woman is going to the country this summer with at least a half dozen batiste veils packed in her bag, because they are the only absolutely sure shield against the sun, and because they wash, so that it is never necessary to wear one longer than two or three



THE SUMMER GIRL OF 1897.

the dip and swim is over. After this hat and robe will be assumed and a bit of a promenade on the warm sands enjoyed, after the fashion at Dieppe, etc. Of the two robes sketched, one is of cream white, fleecy flannel, having triple rows of coral red embroidery running down the back and front. A big white silk sailor collar flares over the shoulders, is edged with a pointed full of white silk and bears in its corners anchors in red silk needlework. The other robe is of navy blue, with a wide white band of baby pink French serge, and has a great pointed collar of ruffled rosy china silk decorating the shoulders.

Now to discuss the real mission of the moment, the bathing suits themselves. Be it known to all readers, that with embroidery the great majority of them are trimmed. Or braid is applied in yokes and bolero jackets, and many a pretty water dress is worn with a smart silk sash girding the waist. Numbers of the smartest little suits have skirt and body made of Prussian blue flannel or cotton, the sash of dark blue silk and the shoulder epaulettes and yoke worked in navy blue braid. Broad bands of embroidery or braiding ornament the skirts while many of these last have their placket hole on the left hip. Occasionally only an elbow long sleeve, fitting closely, is seen, for in the majority of cases, just a little crescent-shaped flap, split up the middle, finishes off the armhole, while necks are cut out square and a little lower than formerly.

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days at a time. They are pretty, too, as well as useful; the majority cut in squares, and having three little hemstitched flukes running around three sides of the square, while the fourth side gathers up with a fine white cotton cord, and is intended to be tied about the crown of the hat.

This makes the veil very easy of adjustment, and as the body of it is usually white, with the flukes in pale pink, blue or green, the general effect is exceedingly gay. Naturally, only the very sheerest batiste is used, and in the laundry these squares are merely washed out and ironed without starching or folding them. Fish net is the single fashionable dotted veil

this season. 'Tis woven in a very wide mesh, exactly like a castnet and, at every angle in the weaving, a tiny chenille dot is placed. Black fish nets have gray dots, brown nets have dark blue dots, and red ones, green dots, and one prime recommendation of the weave is that it is as strong as if woven of buttonhole twist and positively refuses to wrinkle.

All these innovations, however, have not quite done away with that mainstay of late years, the chiffon veil. It is the only face protector women now buy by the yard, for all other smart veils are made up to pin right over one's hat. The really admirable chiffon veiling is not at present dotted, but figured in pretty lace and chenille designs. For instance, you can buy white chiffon veiling, all over with minute green velvet shantocks, or gray chiffon embroidered along the edges with cornflowers. Then there are perforated

chiffons, that is on the material tiny leaves, stars or circles of net or lace are applied and the chiffon cut out underneath. But all these veillings are mere frivolities beside the net droppies meant for the topically, rose-mantled hats women are wearing. A veil for a big hat comes from a yard and a half to two yards and a

quarter long, edged with lace, put on straight or in a bill, and this is first drawn over hat and face and tied in a knot behind, a little to the right. Drawing the ends down, a hemstitch is formed and pinned to the hair, just back of the right ear, and then the remaining length of net is left to flow down on the shoulders. It is permitted to add bright jewel-headed pins in arranging these veils and nets of every bright color are used in this way. Women who put a deal of profound thought into selecting their veils usually choose these big ones to match the straw of their hats, whether grass green or poppy red.

TO EXTERMINATE INSECTS.

At this season of the year the careful housekeeper looks to her closets and pantries. An ounce of prevention now is worth many pounds of cure later on, when the really hot weather has set in. The care of the larger rooms, so open and free of access, is comparatively easy, but these pantries, with their closet recesses, many of them with drawers and shelves, are at once the most exacting and unrelenting of all a housekeeper's manifold duties, for where food is kept or prepared the least oversight or neglect will cause serious trouble.

Cleanliness is the test safeguard against insects, fresh clean water being left in no place, if no scrap of refuse be left to decay unnoticed. Floor and shelves should be wiped with a damp cloth daily. The outside of all jars, boxes, buckets and barrels kept free from every drop or grain of the contents within. The slightest carelessness in this particular being sufficient to bring a whole army of pests, and let them once appear, the most vigorous measures are necessary to expel them.

Covered utensils not in daily use should have their covers left slightly ajar to admit air and prevent mustiness, and oftentimes rust.

The refrigerator should be kept near a window, so that it may be frequently flooded with air and light. Well may a housekeeper pride herself upon the manner in which her refrigerator is kept, for in no place is more apparent her thrift, painstaking and untiring energy.

Campbells will prevent the ravages of mice. For waterbugs, fill cracks and crevices with a paste made of two table-spoons of plaster of paris, one teaspoon of sugar and one teaspoon of green soap. A sponge wrung from cold water and filled with fine white sugar, pressed well into pores, placed where red ants frequent, will exterminate them. After a few hours immerse the sponge in boiling water. When dead, remove and use as food. When all are captured, scrub the place well and sprinkle with red pepper and borax.

To guard against buffalo bugs, the floors should be wiped with water in which spirits of turpentine have been mixed—to a large pint of hot water add a pint of turpentine. This is a perfect preventive against this pest, so much dreaded by the best housekeepers, and is well worth trying by those whose closets and pantries have been infested by these dreadful vermin.

THE TRAVELERS' AID SOCIETY.

One of the institutions of Chicago is a special police force of women for the protection of young girls and children who may be traveling alone. The members of this force make it their special duty to be at the railway stations when the late trains come in, and come to the aid of anyone who seems to need it. Young girls who have run away from home and are beginning to wish they hadn't done so; girls whose friends do not come to meet them; girls who are in suspicious company, all are looked after by these good women, who see that they get to their friends if they have any, or to some respectable boarding house if they have not, and who dispose of suspicious characters who may try to entrap them. Their work is not confined to young girls, however. There are elderly women unused to traveling, to whom the sight of a woman with a badge of authority in a crowded station is a sort of godsend. This force is a department of the Young Women's Christian Association, known as the travelers' aid department. The lady officers wear a badge and star

HAND SPINNING.

Ten Thousand Busy Wheels Help to Clothe the People of the Northwest.

Chicago, May 20.—There have been many importations of spinning wheels into this country in the last two or three years, and in a little shop in the Scandinavian district of the city of Minneapolis—the largest Scandinavian city of the world, by the way, with but two exceptions in Sweden and Norway—I saw not long ago large boxes of wheels, in pieces, which had just been opened on their arrival from Sweden. It is estimated that there are at least 10,000 of these spinning wheels in the humble houses of these poorer people, not bought for picturesqueness, but because, at the prevailing low prices of wool, and times which have been hard, they might afford a way of reducing expenses among those who are obliged to practice the strictest economy. By far the greater number of these spinning wheels have been brought from the Scandinavian countries, and are in the homes of people from those countries.

The dealer sells them by the hundred, shipping them as far South as Texas, and as far West as the State of Washington, though his largest trade is in the more immediate West and Northwest. There is a lot of 25 per cent on the wheel, which brings their final cost, laid down in the little country crossroads, where so many of them go, at \$6 and \$6.50 each. For an outfit for spinning and weaving considerably more than this is needed, and, once bought, the larger number of articles involved are lasting in their character, and need not to be often replaced. Here is the simplest outfit for successful weaving in a country place, suitable for the production of cloth for garments for men and women, blankets, etc., not the finest in the world in finish, but serviceable and economical:

A hand-made wheel, worth say... \$25.00
Spooling machine, for winding the thread... 1.50
Reeds, to make the cloth firm... 4.50
Lazens, for stretching threads... 1.50
Shuttle... 50
Sheeter, for holding the cloth taut... 1.00
Total... \$34.00

But a very large number of small farmers who have but few sheep in their flocks cannot afford even so comparatively inexpensive an outfit as this, and they are compelled to make use of more humble and primitive methods. For them the spinning wheel is, of course, as in all cases, a necessity, but they do away with the loom entirely, and after the yarn or thread is spun from the wool, wind it in large and then knit it into cloth. This is a much more crude form of cloth making, but the wares produced are particularly serviceable and strong. Some of the cloths are used for shirts and blouses, the Iceland cord, or reefers, so much worn in seacoast cities along the shores where merchantmen from foreign climes unload, being of the type made. In fact, some of the Icelandic settlers in the far northwest and in Manitoba have previously the same reefer here that has been so long an Icelandic product.

The poorer farmers make much use of the wool also for stockings, and so strong and durable are they that a pair of men's stockings will easily last for from 40 to 50 cents. For this kind of weaving or knitting the only needed things are the spinning wheel and a pair of shears. Sometimes this wool is used in another form by the poorer classes, who buy cheap cotton cloth, make it up into squares the size of a bed blanket and fill in between the pieces with the wool, stitching and tying it as in the old-fashioned quilts. Very comfortable blankets are in this way made.

The warp for use in the more elaborate weaving costs from 30 to 40 cents per pound. When the price of wool went down a few years ago many of these thirty Scandinavian farmers who had few sheep in their keeping found that it was not worth the while to keep them, for they were not prepared to raise the sheep for mutton, and the price of wool was low to make the shearing profitable. So they turned to the spinning wheel which had been brought from the old country. The result has been that all over these Northwestern States these small farmers have been converting their wool into cloth and yarn, making cloth for coats, pants, shirts, blankets, stockings, yarn and so on.

Of course, much of this homemade product would not stand the critical test of the great looms in point of fineness and finish, but it is strong, serviceable and honest. No shoddy has been chopped to make it, and it will wear like iron. One of the most important features of the situation is that the work can be done in the dull season, when it is sometimes a rather difficult thing for some small farmers to find enough profitable work to do to occupy the attention of themselves and families. There isn't any doubt in the minds of a good many students of modern life that a good deal of the insanity as well as the vice which manifest themselves in country districts, is due to the fact that these people live so abnormally isolated existences. Occupation in land and mind is no doubt a rare aid to sanity and virtue in many instances, and in this regard the spinning wheels should be welcomed.

During the long winter months, from November to April, many a dollar may be earned, many a dollar has been earned, and saved in this wild Western country, by those who have been glad of an opportunity to kill time in so profitable a way. The actual expense involved is slight; the money saved by making these necessary garments is large, when the revenue of the people is taken into account, and the time of many an otherwise wasted day is taken up most satisfactorily.

It would be difficult to say to what extent the trade in woolsens in the towns and cities have been reduced by the introduction in these last few years of these humble cloth manufacturing establishments. Profoundly able figures could not be obtained, and, indeed, it is likely that a large number of the farmers who are making their own cloth and stockings would not have been able to buy woolen goods had they stocked up at the stores. Yet the money which has been saved to these people has been large in the aggregate for, as noted above, there are at least 10,000 of these farmers, who have begun the making of their own garments, to say nothing of those who are not included in that number, who brought all of their spinning and weaving paraphernalia from the fatherland.

And No Wonder.
"I was surprised to hear that Penelope had broken her engagement. I thought she was determined to stick to him in spite of the opposition of her father."
"She was," he called it. And he hymned her name with "let us then enquire." That settled him.—Cincinnati Enquirer.



Of Coral Flannel.



Ready for a Dip.

clinging raiment under a captivating little robe de bain. A similar idea having recently penetrated the understanding of her American sister, a new scene of beach activities will be daily enacted at Newport, Narragansett, and the other important seaside resorts in June.

Pretty bathers in bathing, gay costumes and bright slippers will run down to the water from their bathhouses, carrying, every one on her arm, a big robe and a hat. These will be left on the sand until

with zouave jacket fronts and marine collar. Oddities that may appeal to some women are the accordion and knit plaid swimming skirts and entire suits made of serge, showing the bright royal Stewart or McDuff plaid. A very pretty fancy is that of attaching the skirt to the waist by means of a row of big buttons, curved in the form of shells from mother of pearl. Where this device is not used, not a sash employed as a waist finish, a belt of wash leather, with carved pearl buckles, makes



NOVEL VEILS.

like that of a police officer, and receive the hearty co-operation of the railway officials in all that they do. They have been sworn in as special police officers, so that they may have power to resist by force any personification of the criminal class who have designs on girl travelers. This idea has been more or less carried out in other cities, but it reached its full development in Chicago.

Could Only Afford a Wife.
A brawny Swede visited the city hall the other day to procure a marriage license, and a couple of clerks to whom he innocently stated his wishes directed him to the department where dog licenses are issued.
He approached the license window diffidently, gave his name and address, and asked what the document would cost.
"It will cost you \$1 a year for every dog you keep," replied the clerk.
"Dog?" echoed the Swede.
"Why, certainly," continued the clerk. "Don't you want a dog?"
"No," cried the would-be benedict.
"Any kind of dog to buy dogs does year. Want to get only a woman now?"—Chicago Times-Herald.